Ms. Claudia Nichols
1338A Wili Wili Circle
Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786

403619

Dear Ms. Nichols:

The information you requested in your letter of 21 January 1980 is provided below:

Medical Records - The individual medical record should contain DD Form 1141 or an equivalent record which shows information on radiation dose received as a result of radiation exposures during duty related assignments. For personnel assigned to Enewetak, dosimeter and bioassay values for the period May 1977 thru October 1979 have been reported to the individual's new duty station for inclusion in the medical record. Values for subsequent periods will be reported when received from the laboratory. If the appropriate form is not in the individual medical record, the individual should contact the Commander, Field Command, Defense Nuclear Agency (FCZ), Kirtland AFB, New Mexico 87115 where centralized permanent records for doses received during the Enewetak operations are maintained. In the case of Air Force personnel, a centralized repository of these type records is also maintained by the Occupational and Environmental Health Laboratory.

Whole Body Count - If an individual considers the need for a whole body count essential, that individual should contact his local medical facility. Generally, the equipment to perform a whole body count is centralized at one of the larger Service medical facilities, hence the local medical facility could make arrangements for the individual to have a whole body count. However, it should be noted that the equipment used for this purpose will only measure internal gamma radiation. Consequently,

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such measurements will probably not provide any significant information particularly since the principal hazards on Enewetak were from inhalation or ingestion of alpha emitters.

Types of Masks - The four principal types of protective masks used on Enewetak were the full face piece positive pressure mask, the half face piece positive pressure mask, the full face piece negative pressure mask, and the paper surgical mask. The positive pressure masks contain a cannister and portable electro-mechanical air supply. These masks provide the highest degree of protection from inhalation or ingestion of contaminated airborne particles. The next most effective is the negative pressure mask. This mask is operated through a little cannister on the negative pressure developed by the individual's lungs. While this is an effective mask it was not used in high hazard operations. The surgical mask is the only paper mask that was used. This was used to provide a mechanical filtering capability in low risk areas but more importantly, as a means to encourage discipline in controlled areas which required personnel to refrain from smoking, eating, drinking, and putting fingers in the nose or mouth thereby reducing the potential for ingestion of contaminated particles.

Post Cleanup Discovery of Radioactive Debris - Since completing the crater cap, the Task Group has randomly discovered some radioactive debris as a result of shifting beach sands and other natural changes. To accommodate disposal of this material two (2) box type additions to the crater, each 20 feet by 20 feet, have been built to the same standards as the containment structure. A third 8 feet by 8 feet addition is now under construction and will be used to contain any radioactive scrap discovered

through the end of March 1980. After that date DNA will not search for or dispose of any further radioactive scrap. The DNA operation will be completed by that time and personnel and equipment will not be available for further search and disposal operations. After the departure of the Task Group, the Department of Energy is expected to monitor the people and their environment. To obtain more details on the methods by which this will be accomplished, you should contact Mr. Roger Ray, Nevada Operations Office, Department of Energy, Las Vegas, Nevada 89114.

Shell Collecting - An order was issued by the Commander, Joint Task Group proscribing the collection of living sea organisms. This included shells with living inhabitants. The purpose of the order was to conserve, insofar as possible, the fragile ecosystem of the Atoll reefs. The order was repeated to all personnel one to two times a month in the daily bulletin. Shell collecting was permitted, however, provided the shell contained no living organism. It should be noted that the beaches on Enewetak are formed by bits of shell and coral and are primarily calcarious material; consequently it would be difficult to strip the beaches of shells. Perhaps a more appropriate interpretation of the information which was provided would be that the more desirable uninhabited shells had been collected.

CY FURN:
NVO, DOE
FCZ, FC DNA